Amendment Date: January 7, 2005

Reply to Office Action of October 8, 2004

## **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

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## LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

- Claim 1 (original): A method for receiving a product notice signal comprising:
- 10 receiving a signal;

notifying a user when the signal is addressed to the product; and recording a signal event in a substantially permanently manner.

Claim 2 (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein receiving a signal comprises:

monitoring a communications channel; decoding a signal received from the communications channel; and recognizing a message in the decoded signal.

Claim 3 (original): The method of Claim 2 wherein decoding a signal comprises at least one of demodulating a radio frequency signal, demodulating a plurality of radio frequency signals selected according to a numeric sequence, scanning wired-network activity for a predetermined network address, scanning wireless-network activity for a predetermined network address, demodulating a carrier received by way of a switched-network telephone connection, demodulating a carrier received by way of a cellular telephone connection, extracting digital data from a cellular data system signal.

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Claim 4 (original): The method of Claim 2 wherein monitoring a communications channel comprises:

determining an anticipation window when a signal is anticipated; and enabling communications channel monitoring during the anticipation window.

Claim 5 (original): The method of Claim 4 wherein determining when a signal is anticipated comprises:

comparing a digital identifier to a current time value; and declaring an anticipation window when the digital identifier matches the current time value.

- Claim 6 (original): The method of Claim 2 further comprising capturing either a portion of the message or the entire message when a digital identifier in said message matches a local digital identifier and when the message is a signal message.
- Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of Claim 2 further comprising:
  capturing a time value from the message when the message is a timebeacon; and
  storing the updating a time value in a time clock according to the time
  value captured from the message.
- Claim 8 (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein notifying a user comprises enabling a visual indicator when the signal is addressed to the product.
  - Claim 9 (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein notifying a user comprises:

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extracting an alphanumeric message from a signal message when the signal is addressed to the product; and displaying the alphanumeric message to a user.

- 5 Claim 10 (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein recording a signal event comprises storing at least one of a Boolean message received indicator, a message type indicator, an alphanumeric message and a time indicator.
- Claim 11 (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein recording a signal event comprises at least one of breaking a fusible link, electrically programming a memory and maintaining continuous power to a memory.
- Claim 12 (original): A product notice receiver comprising:

  detector capable of receiving a signal;

  notification unit capable of notifying a user when a signal addressed to the product is received; and

  non-volatile memory capable of storing an indication when a signal addressed to the product is received.
- 20 Claim 13 (original): The product notice receiver of Claim 12 wherein the detector comprises a message decoder capable of converting a signal into a message.
- Claim 14 (original): The product notice receiver of Claim 13 wherein the
  detector comprises at least one of radio frequency receiver, spread-spectrum
  receiver, wired network interface, wireless network interface, a telephone
  interface, a cellular telephone interface, a cellular data interface, a 2G
  interface and a 3G interface.

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- Claim 15 (original): The product notice receiver of Claim 13 further comprising a signal anticipation unit capable of generating an anticipation signal when a signal is anticipated and wherein the detector further comprises a disable input signal for either disabling the detector or causing it to operate in a low-power mode and wherein said disable input is driven by the anticipation signal.
- Claim 16 (original): The product notice receiver of Claim 15 wherein the signal anticipation unit comprises:
- 10 time clock; and comparator capable of generating an anticipation signal when a value provided by the time clock matches a digital identifier.
- Claim 17 (original): The product notice receiver of Claim 13 further

  comprising a time clock that is capable of storing a new time value when the detector receives a time beacon.
- Claim 18 (original): The product notice receiver of Claim 13 further comprising a message register capable of storing either a portion of the message or the entire message when a digital identifier in the message matches a local digital identifier.
  - Claim 19 (original): The product notice receiver of Claim 13 wherein the notification unit comprises a visual indicator that is capable is providing a visual indication to a user when a signal addressed to the product is received.
  - Claim 20 (original): The product notice receiver of Claim 13 further comprising alphanumeric memory capable of storing an alphanumeric message extracted from the signal message and wherein the notification unit

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comprises an alphanumeric display that is capable of presenting the alphanumeric message to a user.